



# MEDIA ADVISORY

## **9-11 Commission to Examine Counterterrorism Policy at Public Hearing**

**March 16, 2004** — The National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9-11 Commission) will hold its eighth public hearing on March 23-24, 2004, in Washington, DC. The two-day hearing will investigate the formulation and conduct of U.S. counterterrorism policy, with particular emphasis on the period from the August 1998 embassy bombings to September 11, 2001.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Capitol Hill (Hart 216), the Commission will hear from current and former top-level administration officials. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell, Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, and Director of Central Intelligence George J. Tenet are scheduled to testify, as are former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, former Secretary of Defense William Cohen, former National Security Adviser Samuel R. Berger, and former National Counterterrorism Coordinator Richard A. Clarke. In addition to witness testimony, four staff statements will be delivered during the course of the proceedings. A complete hearing agenda follows this advisory.

“A central aspect of our Commission’s mission is counterterrorism policy: what options senior officials considered before September 11, 2001, and what choices they made,” said Commission Chair Thomas H. Kean. “This is clearly one of the most important hearings the Commission will hold. We will bring together senior officials responsible for national security policy from the past two administrations, to explain how they handled the most pressing security threat to our country.”

Commission Vice Chair Lee H. Hamilton added: “These hearings will be a historic opportunity to inform our final report, understand how September 11 happened, and help us formulate recommendations to make America safer and more secure.”

The hearing will be open to the public and members of the media. Seating will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Members of the media must register by the close of business on March 19, 2004, by visiting the Commission’s website, [www.9-11commission.gov](http://www.9-11commission.gov). At the end of the second day, the Chair and Vice Chair will hold a briefing for accredited press registered with the Commission or congressional galleries.

Staff statements, prepared testimony, archived video, and transcripts will be posted on the Commission’s website as they become available.



NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TERRORIST ATTACKS UPON THE UNITED STATES  
EIGHTH PUBLIC HEARING ▪ MARCH 23-24, 2004  
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 216 ▪ WASHINGTON, DC

**COUNTERTERRORISM POLICY**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 23**

**9:00 – 9:30 a.m.** STAFF STATEMENT NO. 5 *Diplomacy*

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.** **The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright**  
*Former Secretary of State*

**11:00 – 12:30 p.m.** **The Honorable Colin L. Powell**  
*Secretary of State*

**12:30 – 1:30 p.m.** BREAK

**1:30 – 2:00 p.m.** STAFF STATEMENT NO. 6 *The Military*

**2:00 – 3:30 p.m.** **The Honorable William Cohen**  
*Former Secretary of Defense*

**3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** **The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld**  
*Secretary of Defense*

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24**

**9:00– 9:30 a.m.** STAFF STATEMENT NO. 7 *Intelligence*

**9:30 – 11:00 a.m.** **The Honorable George J. Tenet**  
*Director of Central Intelligence*

**11:00 – 11:30 a.m.** STAFF STATEMENT NO. 8 *National Policy Coordination*

**11:30 – 1:00 p.m.** **The Honorable Samuel R. Berger**  
*Former Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs*

**1:00 – 2:00 p.m.** BREAK

**2:00 – 4:30 p.m.** **Mr. Richard A. Clarke**  
*Former National Coordinator for Counterterrorism, National Security Council*

**4:30 p.m.** Hearing concludes. Press availability to follow.